



## Small Projects Day, Section 1: Project Proposal

1. **Responsible Official:** Martina Barnes, Manchester District Ranger District
2. **Project Name:** Mount Snow Epic Mix Installation
3. **Project Location:** Mount Snow Ski Resort – Town of West Dover, Windham County, VT
4. **Project Contact:** Jeff Hammell, (802)-747-6798, [jeffrey.hammell@usda.gov](mailto:jeffrey.hammell@usda.gov)
5. **Purpose and Need** (*Why here? Why now? Why is the outcome desired?*): The purpose and need for this project is to respond to a request from Mt. Snow to install infrastructure associated with an interactive skiing application and to increase areas on the mountain where electrical power would be available. The Epic Mix Installation would be a ski-through gantry that skiers interact with via smartphone. The smartphone app would give the user all their statistics (run/vertical feet) as well as the ability to participate in interactive challenges from resort to resort. Also included in the interface is interactive resort mapping and Epic Time. Epic Time takes the information from the app to determine the wait times across the resort. The user would be able to view these through the app and make travel decisions based on the information. This is a product that Vail offers across their larger resorts and determined (if possible) that it would be implemented at Mount Snow this upcoming summer. The installation of fiber optic cables and power to locations at the resort which previously had no connectivity would be a major upgrade for the Mountain Operations team. With the upgrades, Mt. Snow would be able to add safety camera viewing to four additional loading platforms on USFS land, fan gun power outlets, heating source upgrades and lift counterweight options.
6. **Project Description** (*What will we be doing? How will we do it? Where is the project located?*): The project would consist of the above noted ski through gantry. This project would consist of two distinct phases:
  - a. Phase 1- adding buried fiber optic wiring through 2-inch conduit from Nitro ski trail to the bottom of the Sunbrook area to feed Lifts 14, and 19. Along with the fiber run, a blank 5-inch conduit would be added for potential future use, this conduit would be used in the future to supply primary power to the top of Lift 2 as well as the bottom of the Sunbrook Base area. This future power would take the place of the Hendrix aerial power line from the Top of Lift 7. Removal of this line would also include removal of the existing aerial poles. (See Project Map)
  - b. Phase 2 – adding buried fiber optic wiring in 2-inch conduit from Somerset Road (Mtn Work Road) to the bottom on our North Face Base Area. Along with the buried fiber two 5-inch conduit runs would be installed. One run would carry three phase primary power and the second conduit would be left blank for any future needs. (See Project Map)
    - i. Five Metal Sectionalizing Cabinets (aka: MTC) cabinets would be installed with small fiberglass vaults, these pull stations would be placed roughly every 500 feet.
    - ii. Five small fiber pull boxes would be installed in line with the above noted MTC cabinets.
    - iii. One 300 kva transformer would be installed at the bottom of the North Face. This transformer would supply a 3-phase 480v snowmaking fan gun circuit for multiple fan gun outlets. This transformer would also supply low voltage to lift houses replacing propane heaters. Lastly adding power



to this location would provide future tensioning devices for the two chairlifts which are currently a chain and block tensioning system.

- c. These two phases would be completed with in-house and sub-contracted labor forces.
  - i. Three large excavators and one small excavator would be used to dig the trenches.
    - 1. Mt. Snow-Owned Cat 320
    - 2. Mt. Snow-Owned Cat 311
    - 3. Rented 12,000 lbs. Mini Excavator
    - 4. Rented 60,000 lbs. Excavator with Hammer
  - ii. Hammer Rental would be needed to achieve desired depth though rock / ledge.
    - 1. Desired depth is 36 inches.
    - 2. Currently blasting is not foreseen to be needed. In the planning Mt. Snow would like to add blasting to the work plan as a failsafe if hammering doesn't achieve depth.
  - iii. Base Area Construction
    - 1. Sunbrook / North Face
      - a. Power would be fed from existing Lift Houses to the gantry.
      - b. Gantry would be located approximately 10 to 20 feet from the wait here point.
      - c. Fiber would be terminated in the lift house then be brought to the gantry location in 2" conduit with power.
  - iv. Tree Cutting
    - 1. Currently there is no planned tree cutting associated with this project.
      - a. All work would be on open slopes and on existing work roads.

**7. Forest Plan Management Area:** MA 7.1 Alpine Ski Areas

**8. Forest Plan Compliance** (*How does this project comply with the Land & Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) direction?*): This project is proposed to enhance recreation experiences that are consistent with the designation of the area for high quality downhill ski and snow board opportunities. It also would provide for enhanced safety by facilitating lift operation cameras and potentially tracking of missing/lost visitors.

**9. Exclusion Category:** 36 CFR 220.6(e)(3) Approval, modification, or continuation of special uses that require less than 20 acres of NFS lands.

**10. Expected Implementation Date:** August 2021.

